

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 403

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Orville Robert Armstrong upon his election as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Orville Robert Armstrong who was elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons of Tennessee on March 29, 2007; prior to that position, Mr. Armstrong had been elected R.W. Junior Grand Warden on March 25, 2004, advancing each year to reach his current designation; and

WHEREAS, the son of Clayton Powell and Virginia Backus Armstrong, Orville Armstrong was born on August 15, 1953, in Greenville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he was educated in the public school system in Hawkins County and is employed by Armstrong Machine Works, Inc. in Rogersville; and

WHEREAS, Brother Armstrong was raised a Master Mason on February 1, 1975, in Overton Lodge No. 5 in Rogersville and ably served as Worshipful Master in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Companion Armstrong was exalted in Church Hill Chapter No. 238 in 1993, where he served as Excellent High Priest in 2000; he received the Order of High Priesthood also in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong was greeted in Kingsport Council No. 117 in 1993, where he served as Illustrious Master in 1999; he received the Order of the Silver Trowel in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Sir Knight Armstrong was Knighted in Kingsport Commandery No. 33 in 1993, where he served as Commander in 1998; he was made a member Knight Crusader of the Cross in 1998; and

WHEREAS, he lends his immeasurable talents as a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and the Northeast Tennessee York Rite College No. 153; he received the Order of the Purple Cross and KYCH in 2004 and KYGCH in 2007; and

WHEREAS, he received the Scottish Rite Degrees in Knoxville Consistory in 1975; he was decorated KCCH in 2005; and

WHEREAS, other Masonic affiliations include: Jericho Temple AAONMS, Tennessee Lodge of Research, Masonic Veterans Association, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Masonic Societas Rosicruciana In Civitatibus Foederatis, Knight Commanders, Allied Masonic Degrees, Knight Masons, East Tennessee Past Members Association, Charles Newton Bush Past Masters Association, and Hasson Chapter No. 179 Order of Eastern Star; and

WHEREAS, Brother Armstrong was appointed District Chairman for District No. 27 in 1989, which became District No. 21 after state redistricting, and served for 15 years; he was appointed Grand Steward for the Grand Lodge F. & A.M of Tennessee in 1999, and Grand Senior Warden for the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Orville Armstrong epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, he is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Geraldine Hughes; together they are the proud parents of Orville Brian Armstrong, married to Lori Hurd Armstrong, and Laura Armstrong Hicks, married to Gary Wayne Hicks, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, he is also the proud grandfather of Kayson Brian and Connor Allen Armstrong; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong is an active and devout member of Rogersville United Methodist Church, where he worships faithfully; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Orville Armstrong for his dedication to the state of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Orville Robert Armstrong for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee, congratulate him upon being elected Most

Worshipful Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons of Tennessee, and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.